Case Study Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Type of Waste	Dome Petroleum Installation of Rupture Disks to Prevent Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Air Emissions Hydrocarbon Gas Processing - 2911 Very light end hydrocarbon liquids and gases			
Strategy	Process Modification			
Company Background	Dome Petroleum Company was established in Superior in 1970. Dome is a subsidiary of Amoco Canada. The company employs four full-time employees and three contract employees. The facility stores natural gas liquids in some of the largest storage spheres in the world. In 1991, the facility was expanded with new storage tanks and a depropanizer facility. This facility separates propane from the butane in the natural gas liquids. The propane that is separated is sold locally.			
Original Process	The original process had the process fluid pressure exerted directly on the face, body and gaskets of the pressure relief valve. Prior to installing the rupture disks the only way to minimize leaks was to do expensive monitoring on a quarterly basis. This monitoring only minimized leaks, it did not eliminate them.			
Motivation	 Environmental: Relief valves could have leaks that easily go undetected till the quarterly audit of the valves. Safety: Combustion monitors located on the property may not detect a leak and puts the community and employees at risk. Economics: Both lost product and the cost of the quarterly monitoring are saved by installing the rupture disks. 			
Pollution Prevention Process	Dome Petroleum installed rupture disks between the process fluid and the pressure safety relief valves. The rupture disks are a non-mechanical over pressure relief device that totally isolates the process fluid from the safety relief valve. This isolation of the process fluids from the safety relief valves totally eliminates any gas leaks through the relief valves while at the same time maintains the safety of the processes emergency venting system. The space between the rupture disks and the pressure relief valve is monitored in the unlikely case of a leaking rupture disk. Monitoring in this space is accomplished with either a pressure alarm or pressure gauge. The pressure alarms that are now installed between the rupture disk and the pressure relief valves immediately inform the operators if there is a leak of process fluid. (<i>See diagram below</i> .)			
Scale of Operation	Dome Petroleum has a storage capacity of 10.5 million gallons of natural gas liquids. The company processes 420,000 gallons of natural gas liquid daily to make propane.			
Stage of Development	This pollution prevention technique is in full use. Site inspection by air			

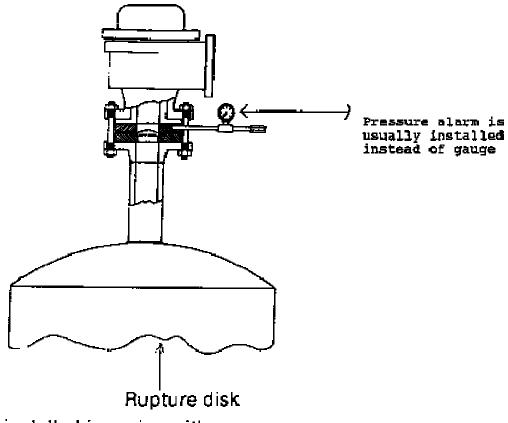
	management staff	management staff verified this equipment installation in October 1995.			
Level of Commercialization	These techniques have been available for many years but have been continually improved. The rupture disks are available for most hydrocarbon processes for a variety of size lines, working pressures and temperatures.				
Material/Energy Balance	Dome has virtually eliminated VOC air emissions from these valves. Using emission factors from the EPA, the calculation for the amount of product lost prior to installation of the rupture disks is:				
	3 pipeline valves X 210.24 lbs of VOC/year = 630.27 lbs/yr 24 vessel relief valves X 3153.6 lbs of VOC/year = 75,686.4 lbs/yr				
	Total = 76,317.12 lbs/yr VOCs (38TPY)				
	or \$5,143.00/yr				
Economics	Capital Costs				
	Rupture disks		\$11,551		
	Other mechanical	material	5,785		
	Conduit and wiring		8,560		
	Tubing and isolation valves		4,600		
	Pressure switches		4,200		
	Crane rental		7,986		
	Labor		10,795		
		TOTAL	\$53,477		
	Operation/Maintenance Costs Previous to the installation of the rupture disks, operational costs were four site visits per year from the valve monitoring company. These monitoring tests cost \$16,000 per year (\$4,000 per visit). Under the terms of Dome Petroleum's permit with the DNR, monitoring has been reduced to one visit per year. Dome estimates that other operation and maintenance costs for the valves to be less than \$500 per year. Operation and maintenance costs are \$4,500 per year.				
	Payback Period				
	Invested	Saved	Payback		
	\$53,477	16,643/yr.	3 years		
Benefits	Lowered costs, higher level of environmental protection and improved protection from catastrophic failure of pressure safety relief valves.				
	None encountered. The DNR Air Management staff worked with Dome				

	to achieve an additional economic benefit from this technology. Permit required monitoring was reduced while actual environmental protection was realized by lowered air emissions.		
Technology Transfer	Any other hydrocarbon processor/storage facility can take advantage of these rupture disks to lower emissions and monitor expenses.		
Other Pollution Prevention Activities	The older part of the plant (natural gas liquid storage) was not required to do valve monitoring. Dome included this part of the facility in the pollution prevention program along with the new part (the depropanizer processes).		
Company Address	Dome Petroleum Corp. 21st and Stinson Ave. P.O. Box 2096 Superior, Wisconsin 54880		
Contact Person	Richard Boyer, Area Foreman, (715) 398-3824		
Pollution Prevention Resources	Free, On-site Technical Assistance University of Wisconsin Extension Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center Milwaukee area: 414/475-2845 Remainder of state: 608/262-0385 Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse		
	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Environmental Assistance 608/267-9700 or e-mail: cea@dnr.state.wi.us		



Bureau of Cooperative Environmental Assistance Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources P.O. Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707 608/267-9700

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installed in series with relief valve.

